



Università di Trieste  
**Corso di Laurea in Geologia**

Anno accademico 2023 - 2024

# **Geologia Marina**

Parte II

## **Modulo 2.4**      Perforazione dei fondali oceanici

Docente

**Angelo Camerlenghi**



**Scientific ocean drilling is one of the longest-running  
and most successful international collaborations in  
Earth sciences'**

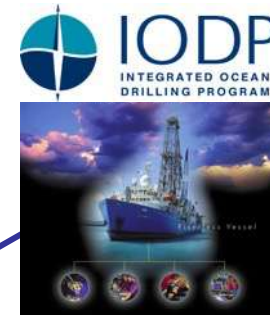
# The International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP)

Exploring the Earth Under the Sea

is an international marine research collaboration that explores Earth's history and dynamics using ocean-going research platforms to recover data recorded in seafloor sediments and rocks and to monitor subsurface environments

<http://www.iodp.org>

End in October 2023



October 2013

**International  
Ocean Discovery  
Program (IODP)**

**Integrated  
Ocean Drilling  
Program  
(IODP)  
2003- 2013**



**Ocean Drilling  
Program  
(ODP)  
1985-2003**



**Deep Sea  
Drilling  
Project  
(DSDP)  
1968-1983**



**MOHOLE  
1958-1966**

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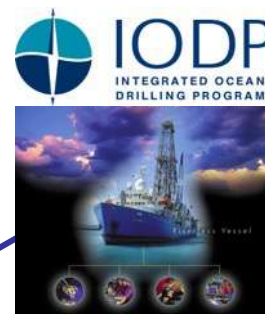
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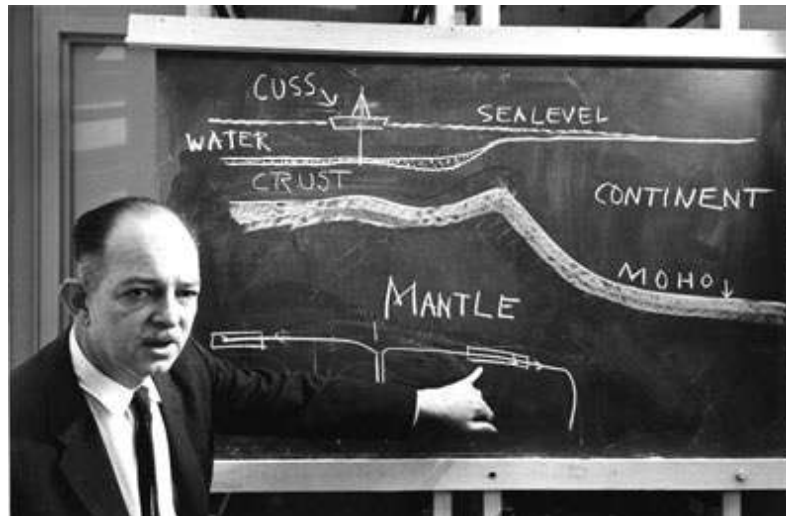
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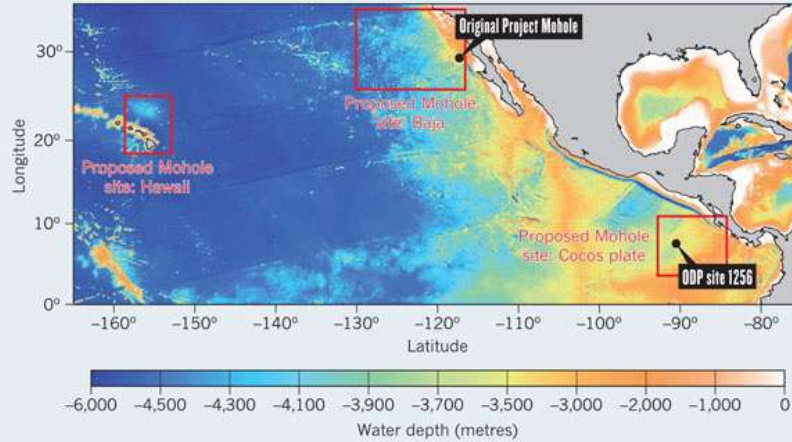
In 1961 scientific drilling took root as a feasible technology to study Earth's subseafloor geology. **Project Mohole**, a concept developed by the American Miscellaneous Society with funding from the National Science Foundation, considered the feasibility of **drilling through the Mohorovičić seismic discontinuity**



Harry Hess, a founding father of the theory of plate tectonics, explains Project Mohole  
Damon Teagle and Benoît Ildefonse, *Nature*, 2011.

### DRILLING SITES

Three areas are under consideration for drilling into the mantle. One includes the original Project Mohole drilling site. Another includes a site (ODP site 1256) where scientists will drill this year into the lower crust.



*Drill ship CUSS 1*



Five holes were drilled off the coast of **Guadalupe Island, Mexico**, the deepest to 601 ft (183 m) below the sea floor in 11,700 ft (3,600 m) of water. This was unprecedented: not in the hole's depth but because of the depth of the ocean and because it was drilled from an untethered platform. Also, the core sample proved to be valuable; penetrating through Miocene-age sediments for the first time to reveal the lowest 13 m (44 ft) consisting of basalt.

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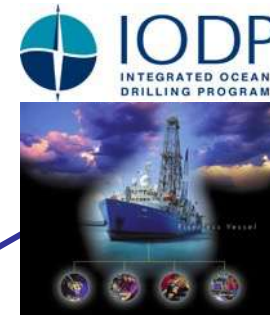
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The next phase of scientific ocean drilling, the **Deep Sea Drilling Project (DSDP)**, began in 1966 using the Drilling Vessel *Glomar Challenger*. This pioneer vessel for DSDP conducted drilling and coring operations in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans as well as the Mediterranean and Red Seas. The *Glomar Challenger* also advanced the technology of deep-ocean drilling.





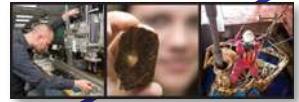
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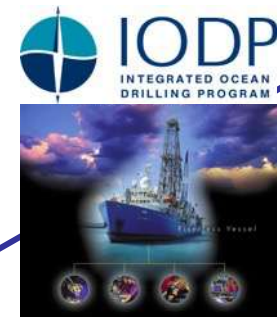
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In 1985, *JOIDES Resolution* replaced the *Glomar Challenger* at the start of a new program, the **Ocean Drilling Program (ODP)**. ODP was truly an international cooperative effort to explore and study the composition and structure of the Earth's subseafloors. The *JOIDES Resolution* conducted 110 expeditions for ODP at 2000 drill holes located throughout the world's ocean basins.



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1958-1966

The **Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP 2003-2013)** built upon the international partnerships and scientific success of the DSDP and ODP by employing multiple drilling platforms financed by the contributions from 26 participating nations. These platforms - a refurbished *JOIDES Resolution*, the new marine-riser equipped Japanese Deep Sea Drilling Vessel *Chikyu*, and specialized Mission-Specific-Platforms - were used to reach new areas of the global subsurface during 52 expeditions.





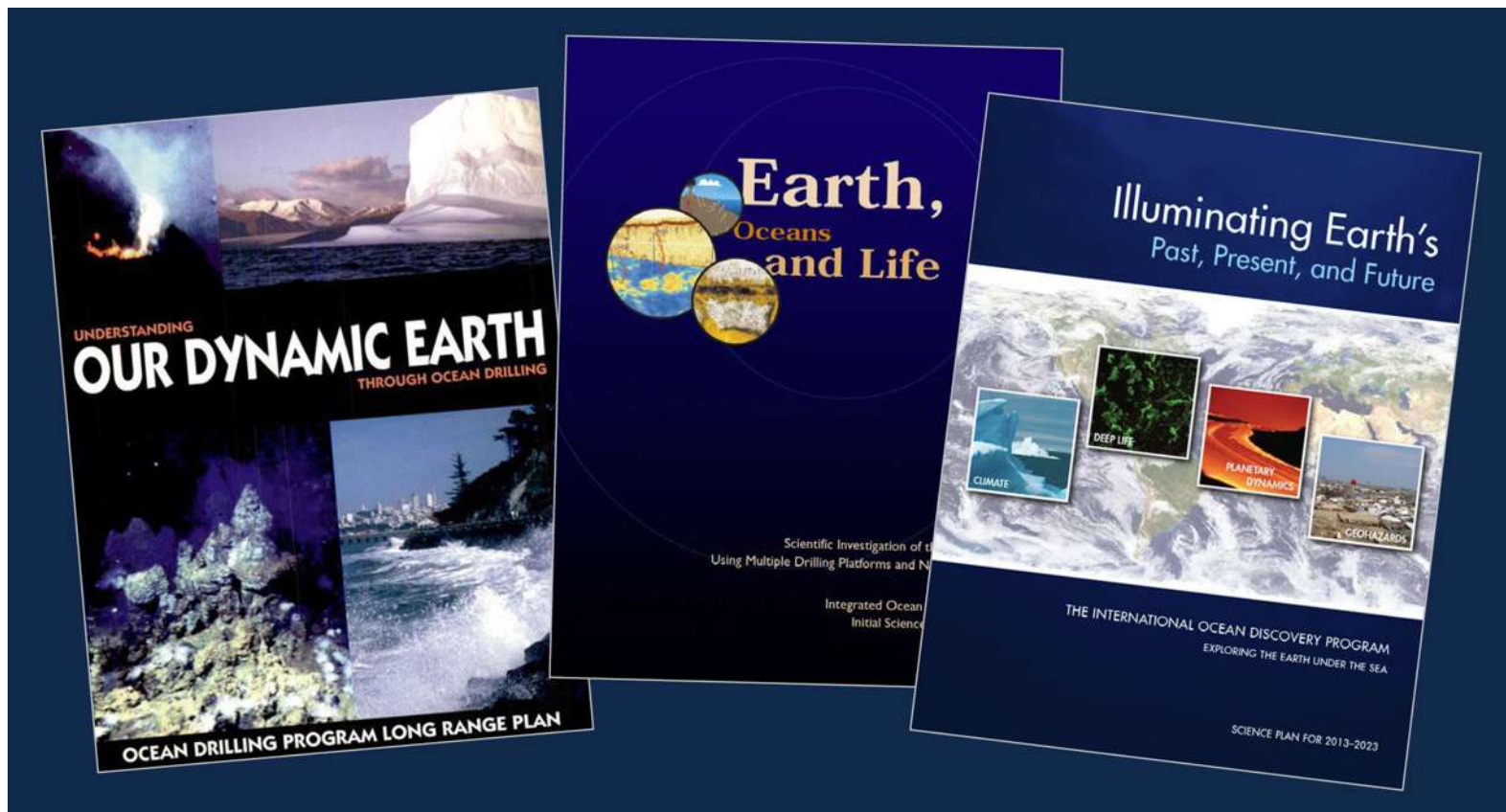


### Drilled holes

- IODP
- ODP
- DSDP

## Fundamental principles of IODP

- **science driven project**
- **science plan**
  - **Climate and Ocean Change:** Reading the Past, Informing the Future
  - **Biosphere Frontiers:** Deep Life, Biodiversity, and Environmental Forcing of Ecosystems
  - **Earth Connections:** Deep Processes and Their Impact on Earth's Surface Environment
  - **Earth in Motion:** Processes and Hazards on Human Time Scales
  - Education AND OUTREACH
- **multiple platform approach to drilling**





2020 – 2050

## EXPLORING EARTH BY SCIENTIFIC OCEAN DRILLING



### Mission

The *2050 Science Framework for Scientific Ocean Drilling* guides multidisciplinary subseafloor research into the interconnected processes that characterize the complex Earth system and shape our planet's future.

### Vision

To be globally recognized as the authoritative source of information about ocean and Earth system history and its links to society.

Anthony Koppers  
Rosalind Coggon

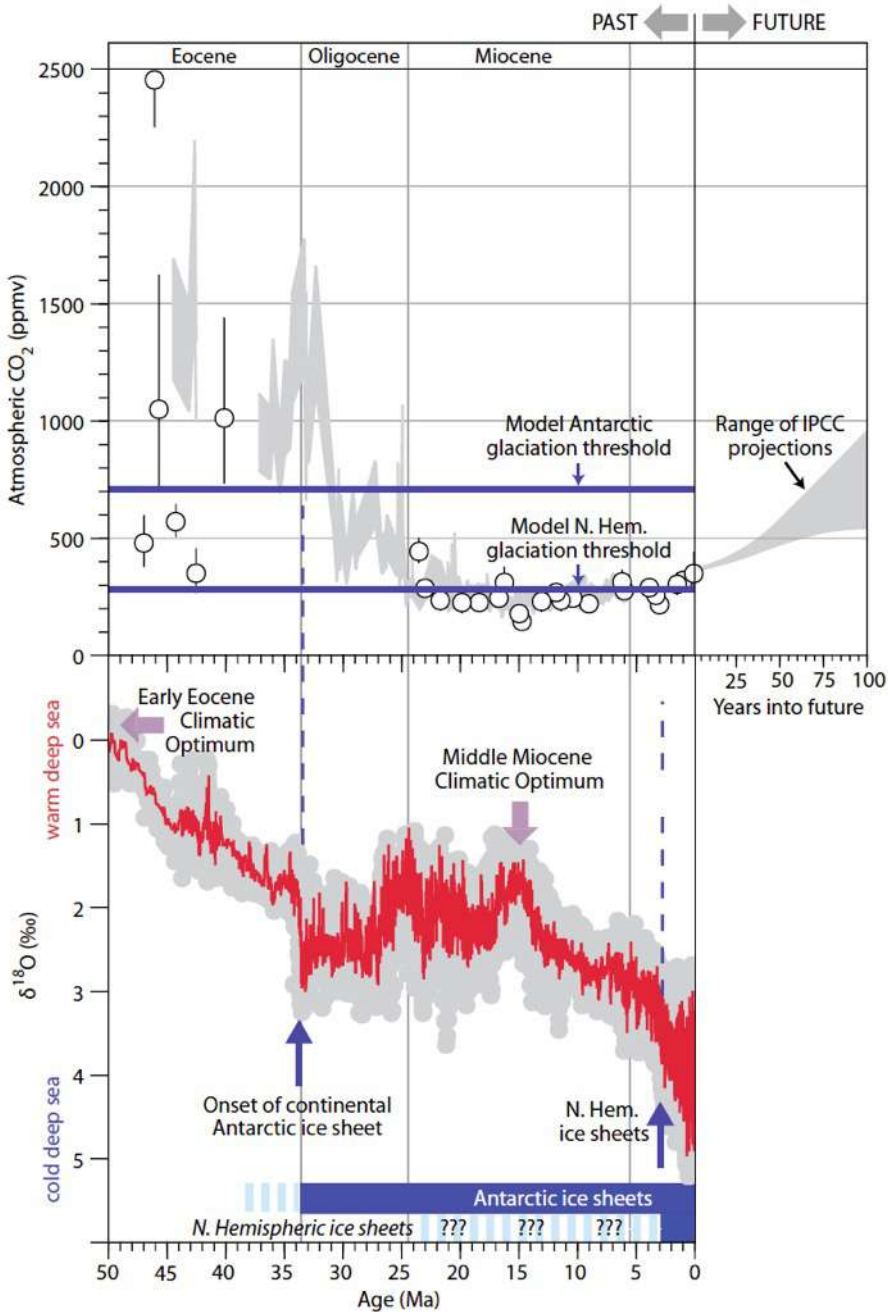
Co-lead Editor, Chair Science Framework Working Group  
Co-lead Editor

and the Science Framework Authors and Reviewers

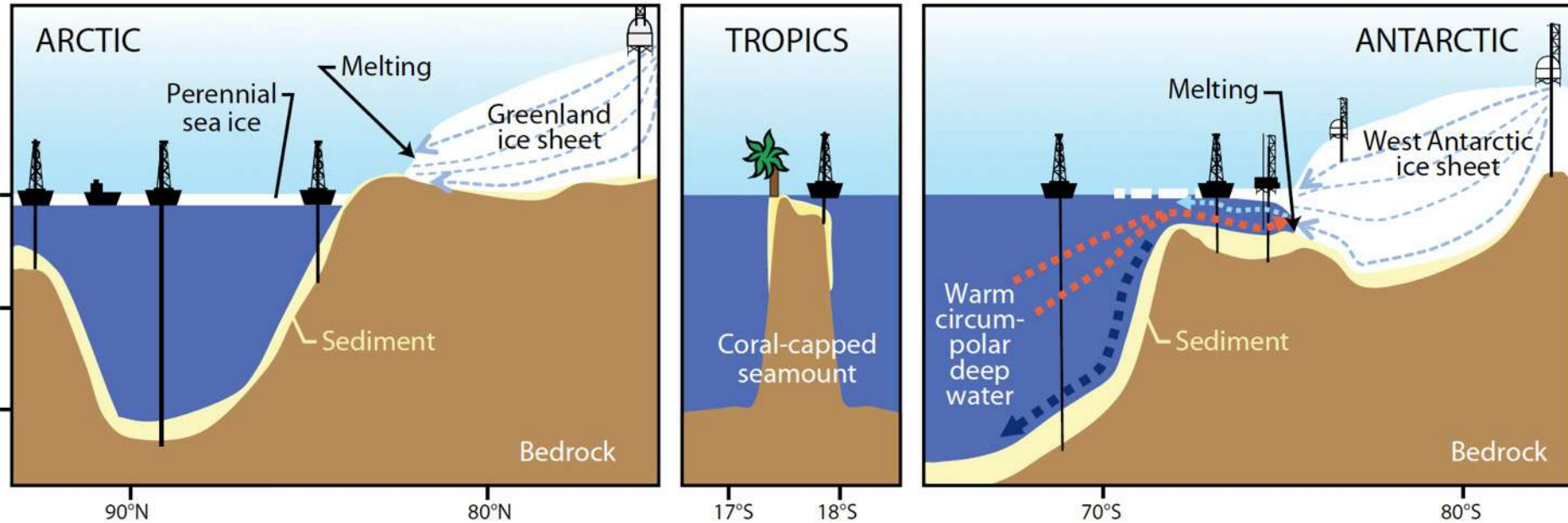
representing the international scientific ocean drilling community



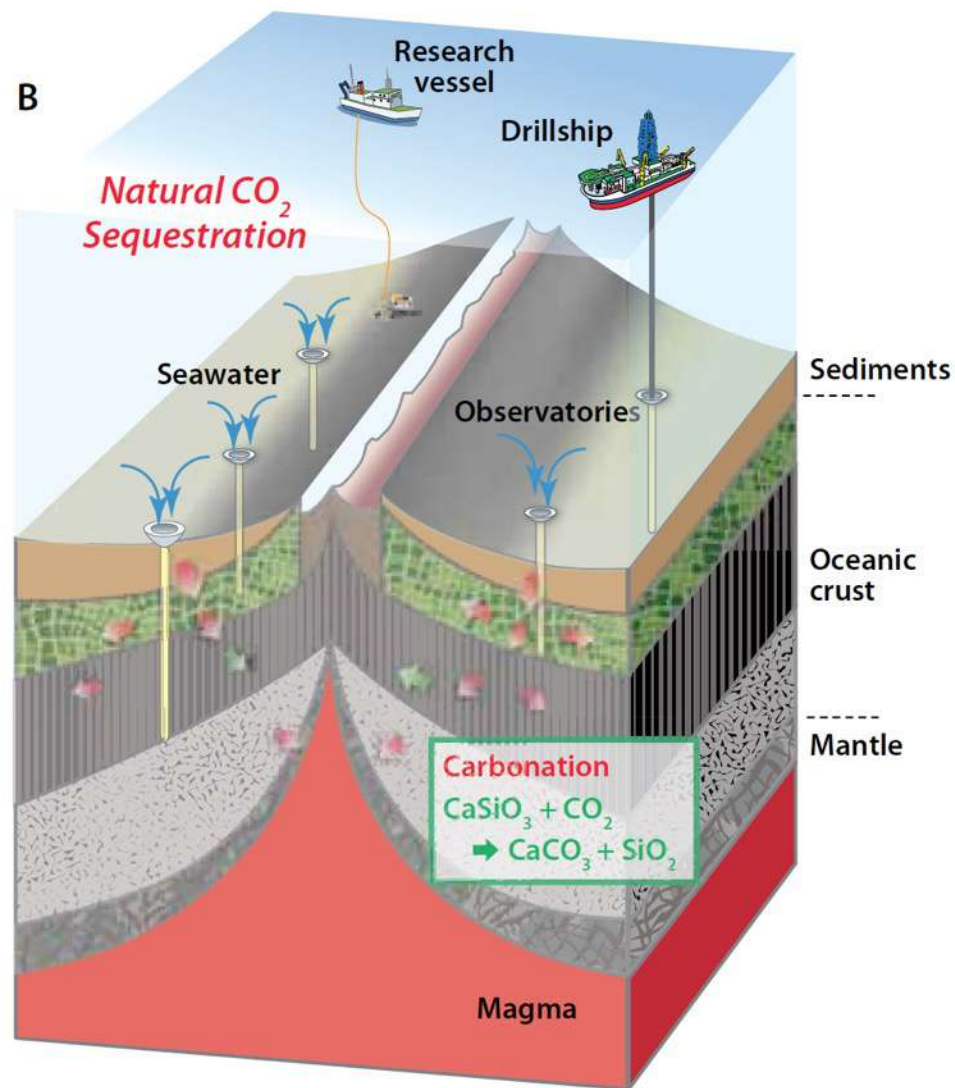
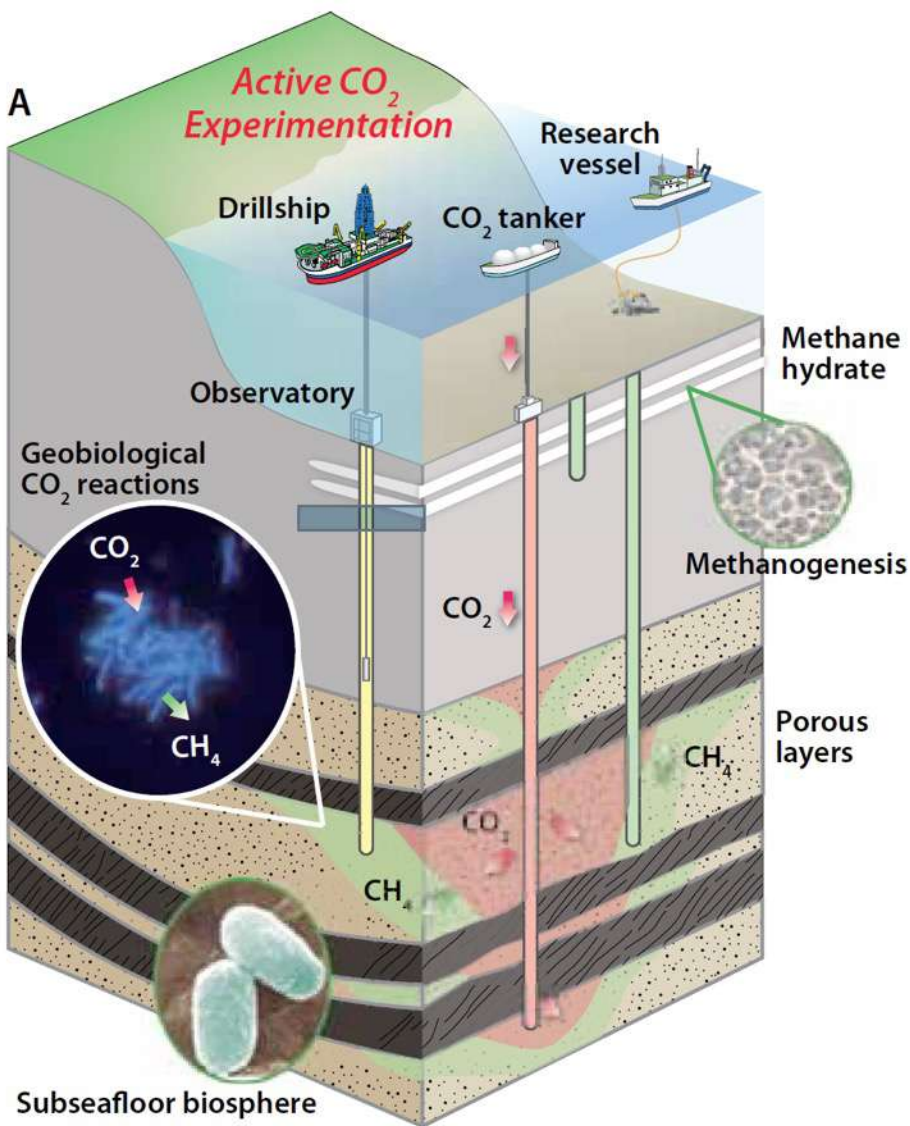
# Climate and Ocean Change: Reading the Past, Informing the Future



## Climate and Ocean Change: Reading the Past, Informing the Future

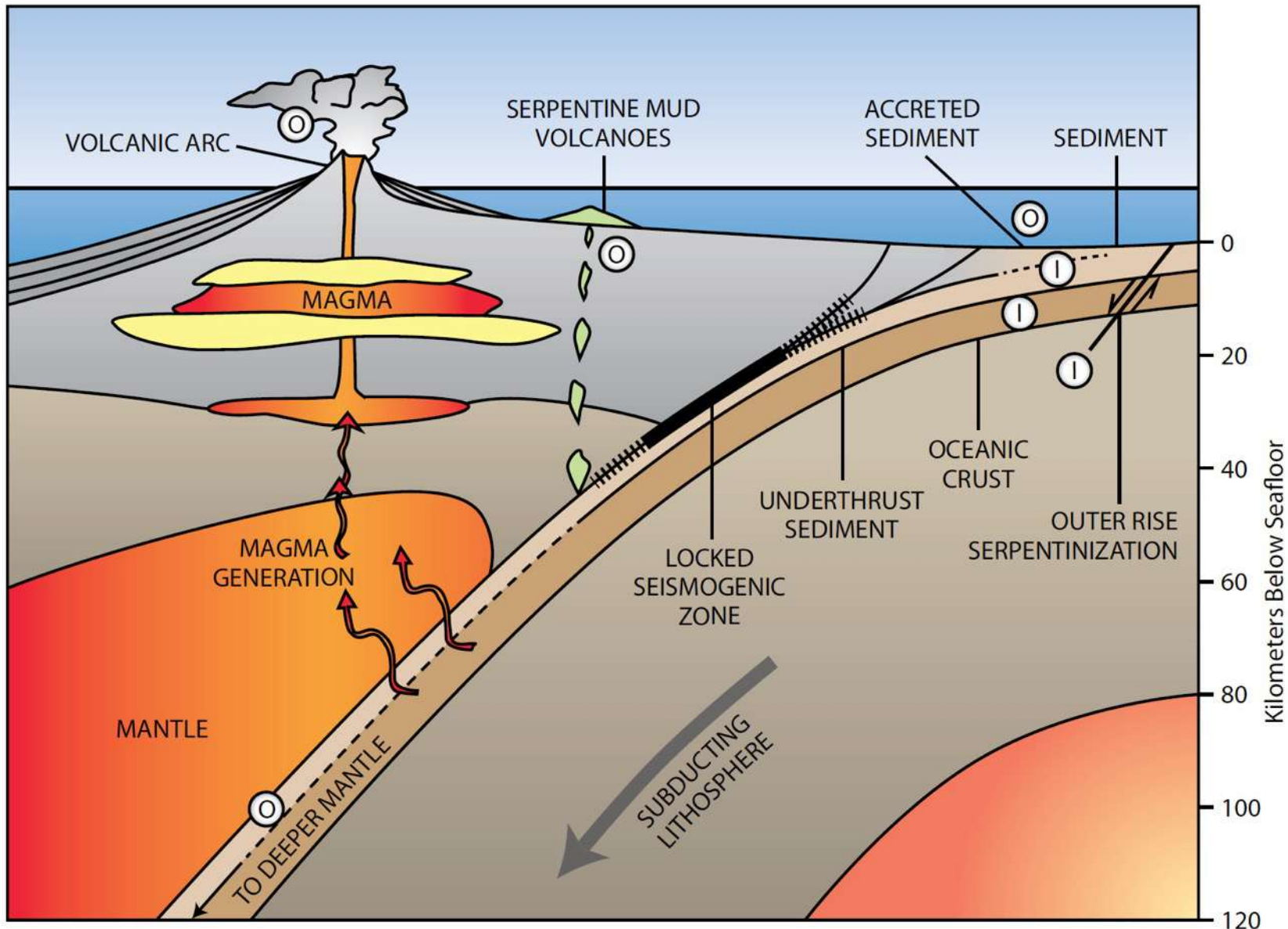


# Biosphere Frontiers: Deep Life, Biodiversity, and Environmental Forcing of Ecosystems



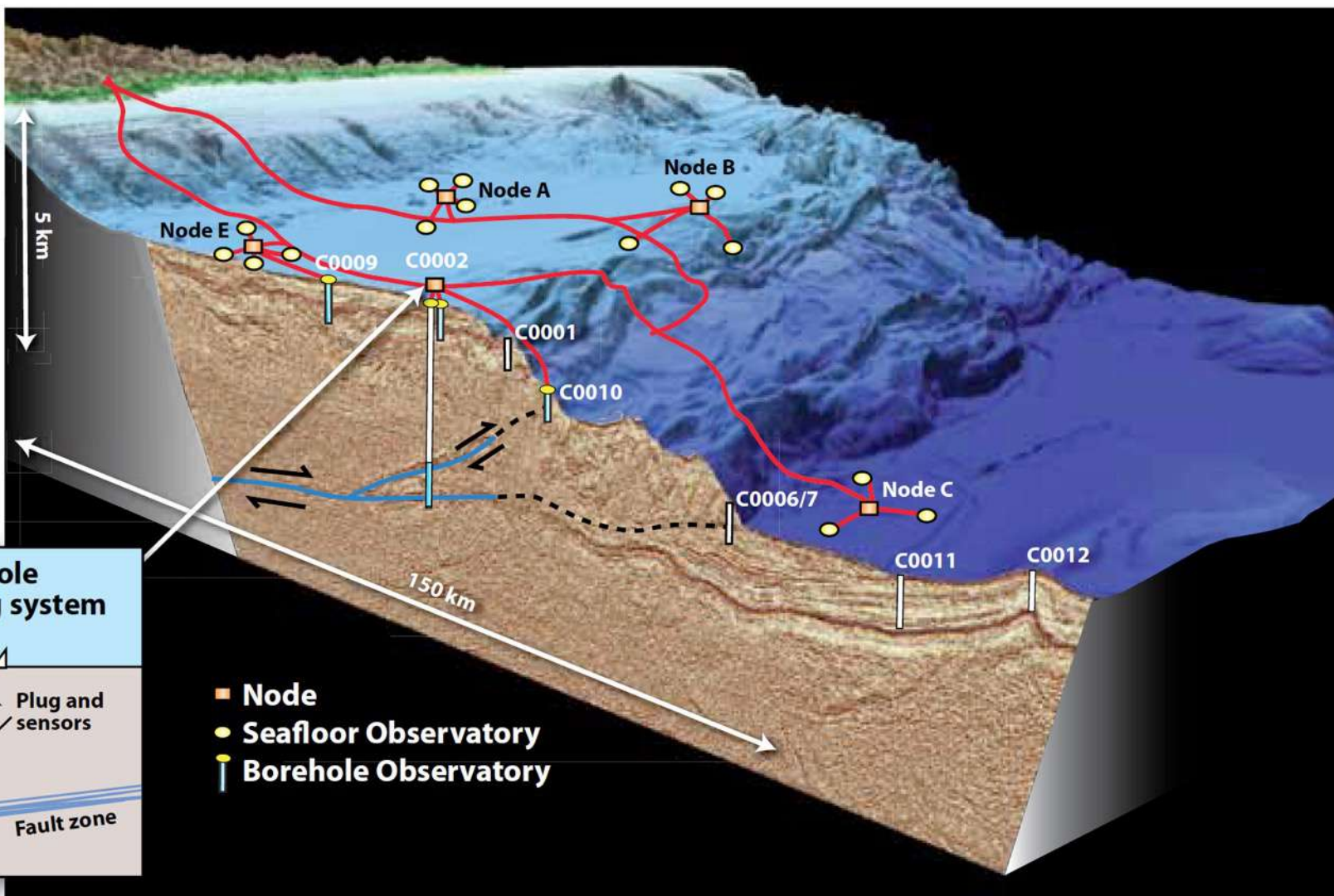


## Earth Connections: Deep Processes and Their Impact on Earth's Surface Environment





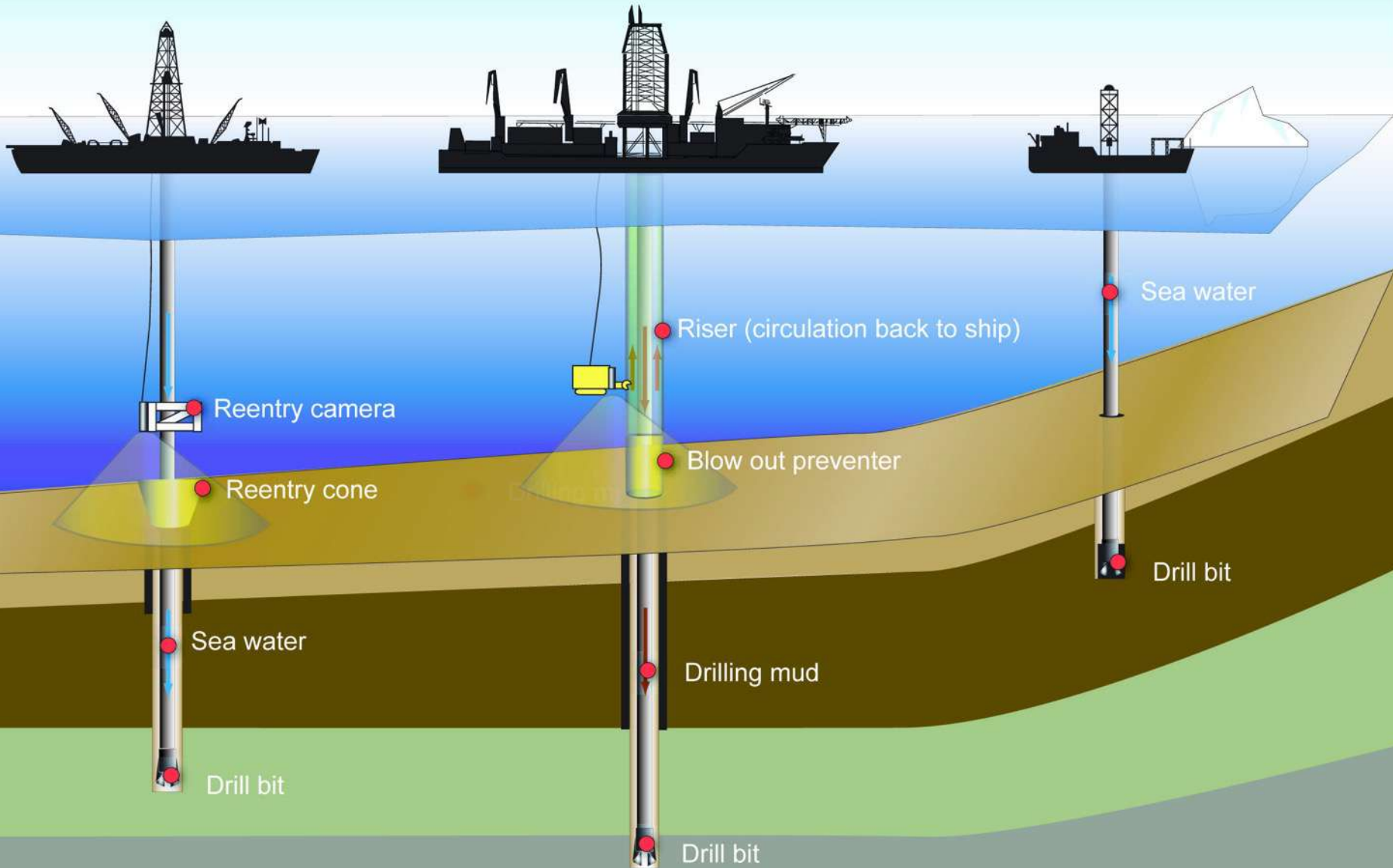
## Earth in Motion: Processes and Hazards on Human Time Scales



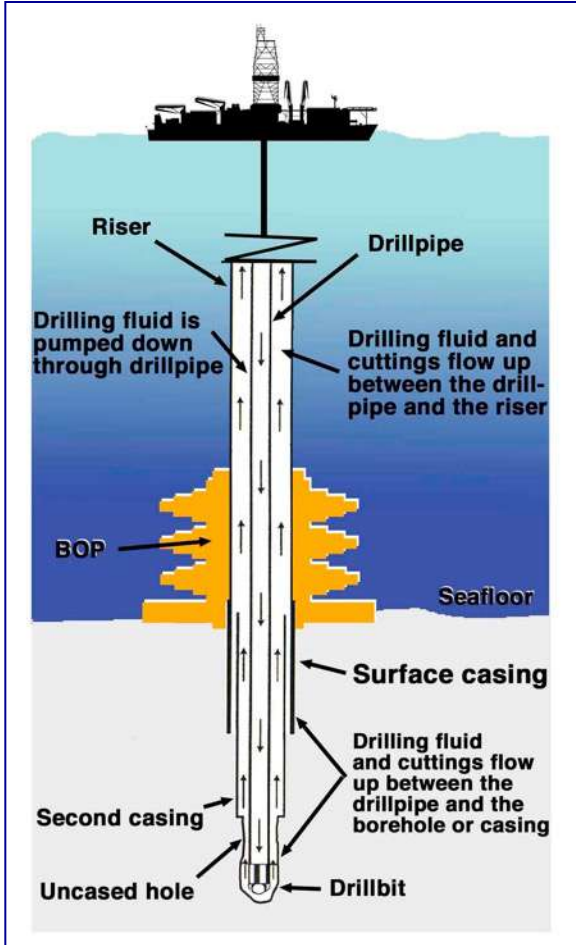
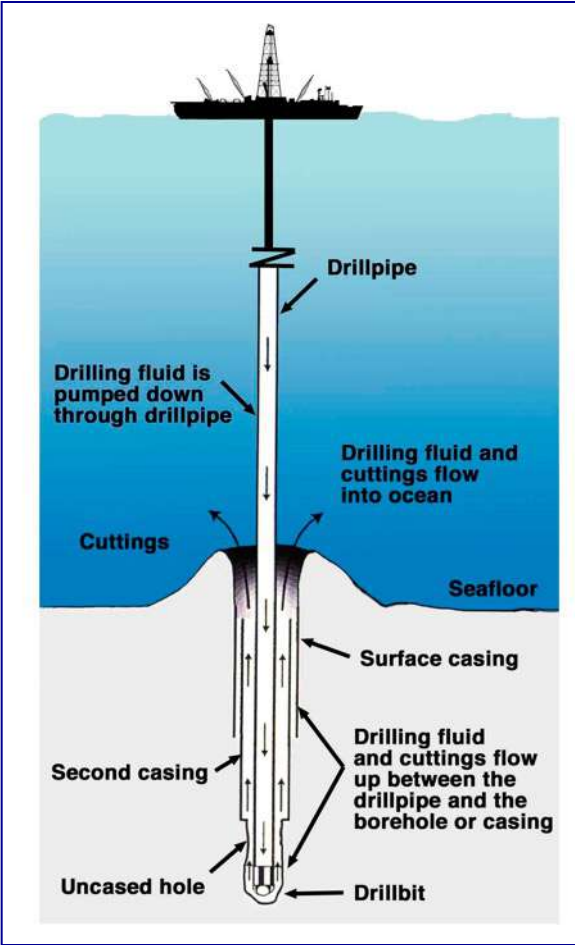
# Riserless Drilling

# Riser Drilling

# Mission-Specific



# THE 'RISER' DRILLING SYSTEM



Chikyu drilling vessel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqmuwHQGo1k&t=9s>

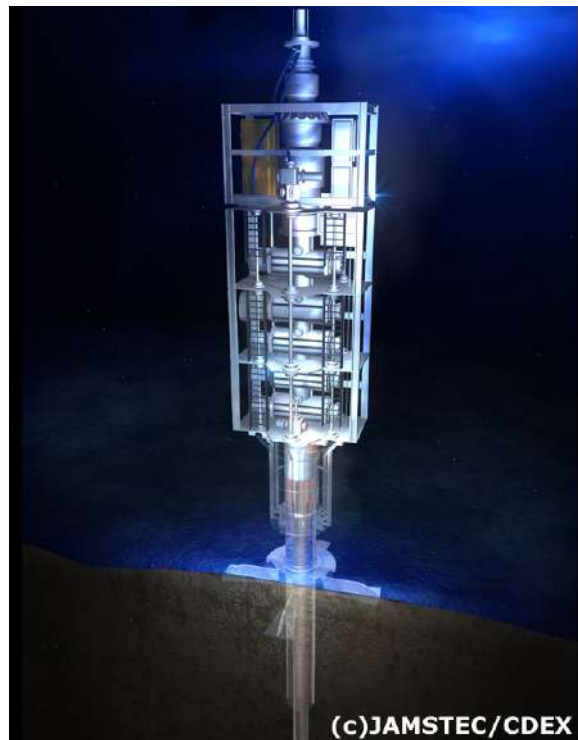
Chikyu riser drilling: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2B8VcQhvkPQ>

**Scientific Deep Sea Drilling and Coring Technology:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wb79oZ4usyo>

Coring minute 7.24

Coring operations: <https://joidesresolution.org/what-is-coring-anyway/>





# CORE ON DECK

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=wC9IDPvvze0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=wC9IDPvvze0)

[http://www.iodp.org/images/stories/swf/jamstec\\_english\\_1\\_deepsea\\_drilling.swf](http://www.iodp.org/images/stories/swf/jamstec_english_1_deepsea_drilling.swf)

[http://www.iodp.org/images/stories/swf/jamstec\\_english\\_2\\_rotary\\_drilling.swf](http://www.iodp.org/images/stories/swf/jamstec_english_2_rotary_drilling.swf)

[http://www.iodp.org/images/stories/swf/jamstec\\_english\\_3\\_riser\\_system.swf](http://www.iodp.org/images/stories/swf/jamstec_english_3_riser_system.swf)

[http://www.iodp.org/images/stories/swf/4core\\_procedure\\_eng.swf](http://www.iodp.org/images/stories/swf/4core_procedure_eng.swf)

<http://www.iodp.org/core-analyzing-process/2/>



## Site Surveys



## Dynamic Positioning

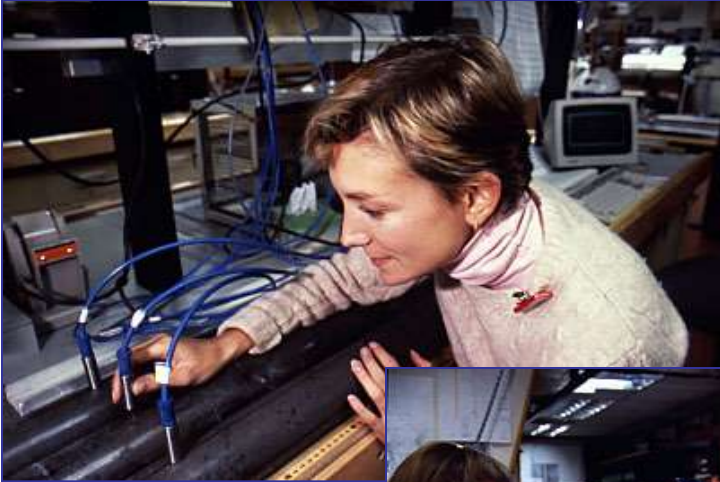


## Drilling



## Hole Re-entry





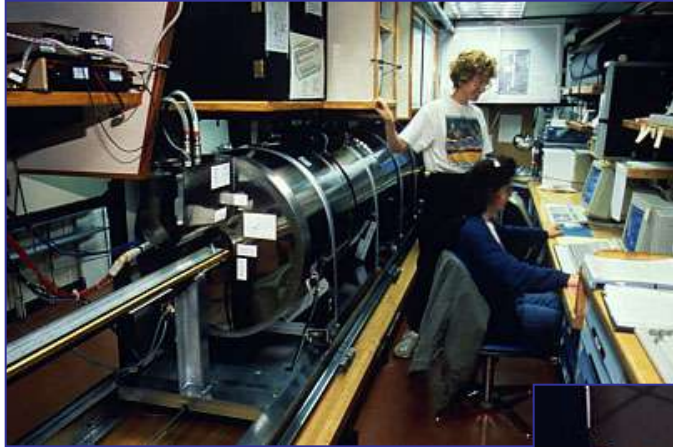
**Core  
Handling**



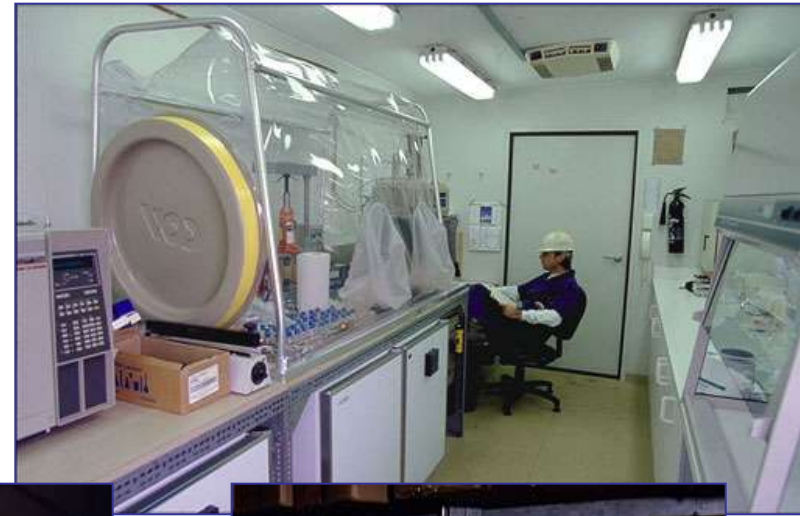
**Core Logging**



## Geomagnetic logging



## Microbiology



## Micropaleontology



## Geochemistry

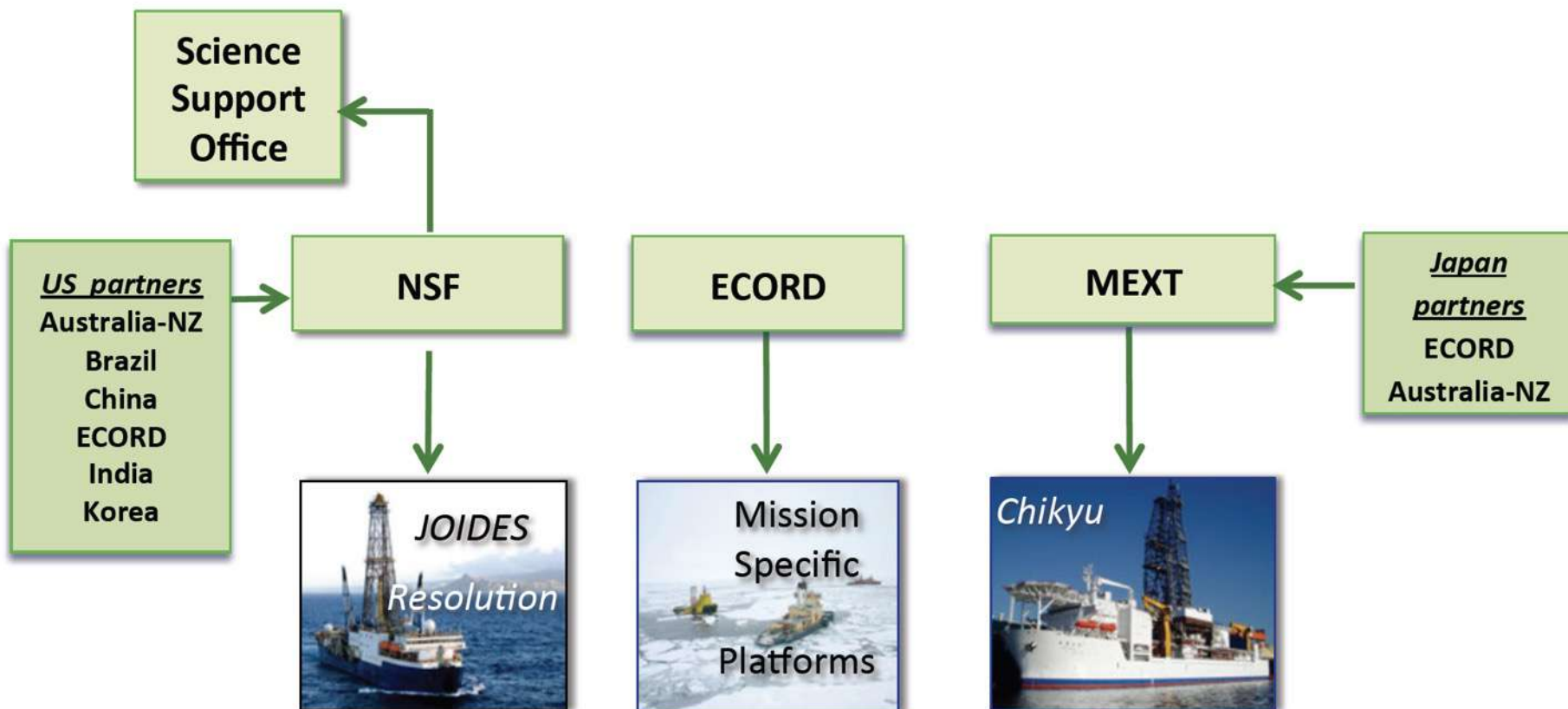


## Downhole Logging



# IODP Funding Model

- Each platform operated independently by respective country or consortia
- Science Support Office funded by NSF



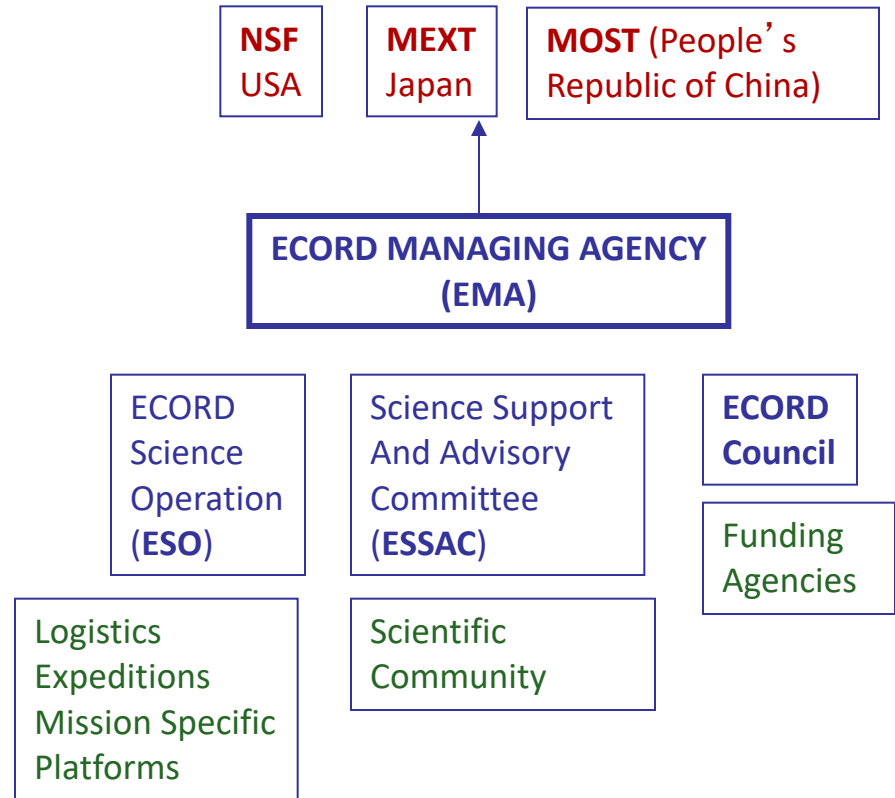
## ECORD

(European Consortium for Ocean research Drilling).



### 16 European nations + Canada

Austria	Italy
Belgium	The Netherlands
Canada	Norway
Denmark	Portugal
Finland	United Kingdom
France	Spain
Germany	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Iceland	



Prevision 2005: *ECORD 12.5 Million USD, ~ 17 % of IODP*

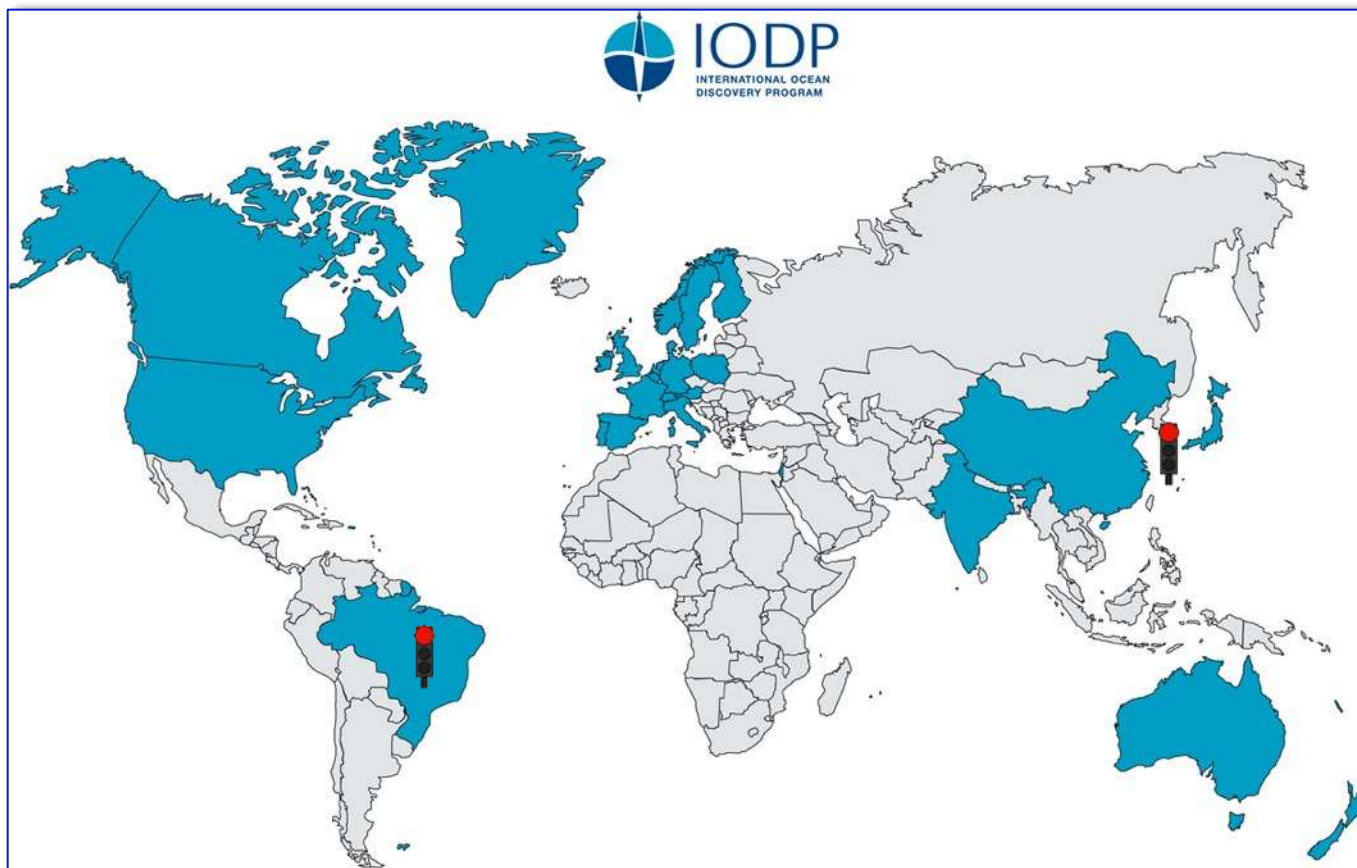


## ECORD Science Operation (ESO)

**ESO** is a consortium of European scientific institutions created to manage the operations of the **Mission Specific Platforms-MSP** on behalf of ECORD in the framework of the [Integrated Ocean Drilling Program-IODP](#).

**ESO** is composed by:

- The [British Geological Survey - BGS](#), (co-ordinator) responsabile of the overall management, under contract with EMA as indicated by the ECORD Council;
- The [University of Bremen](#), sub-contracted by BGS to manage the core repository and the data management with the WDC-MARE/PANGAEA ([IODP-MSP data portal](#)). GFZ Potsdam contributes with by supporting ESO with the Drilling Information System (DIS) for offshore data acquisition;
- The [European Petrophysical Consortium](#), sub-contracted by BGS to manage the Wireline Logging operations and petrophysical activities. The Consortium is composed by:
  - University of Leicester (co-ordinator), U.K,
  - the Université de Montpellier 2, France,
  - RWTH Aachen, Germany and Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam, Netherlands.



**USA** (--> 2023)

**ANZIC** (--> 2022)

**China** (--> 2023)

**India** (--> 2023)

**Japan** (--> 2023)

**ECORD** (--> 2023)

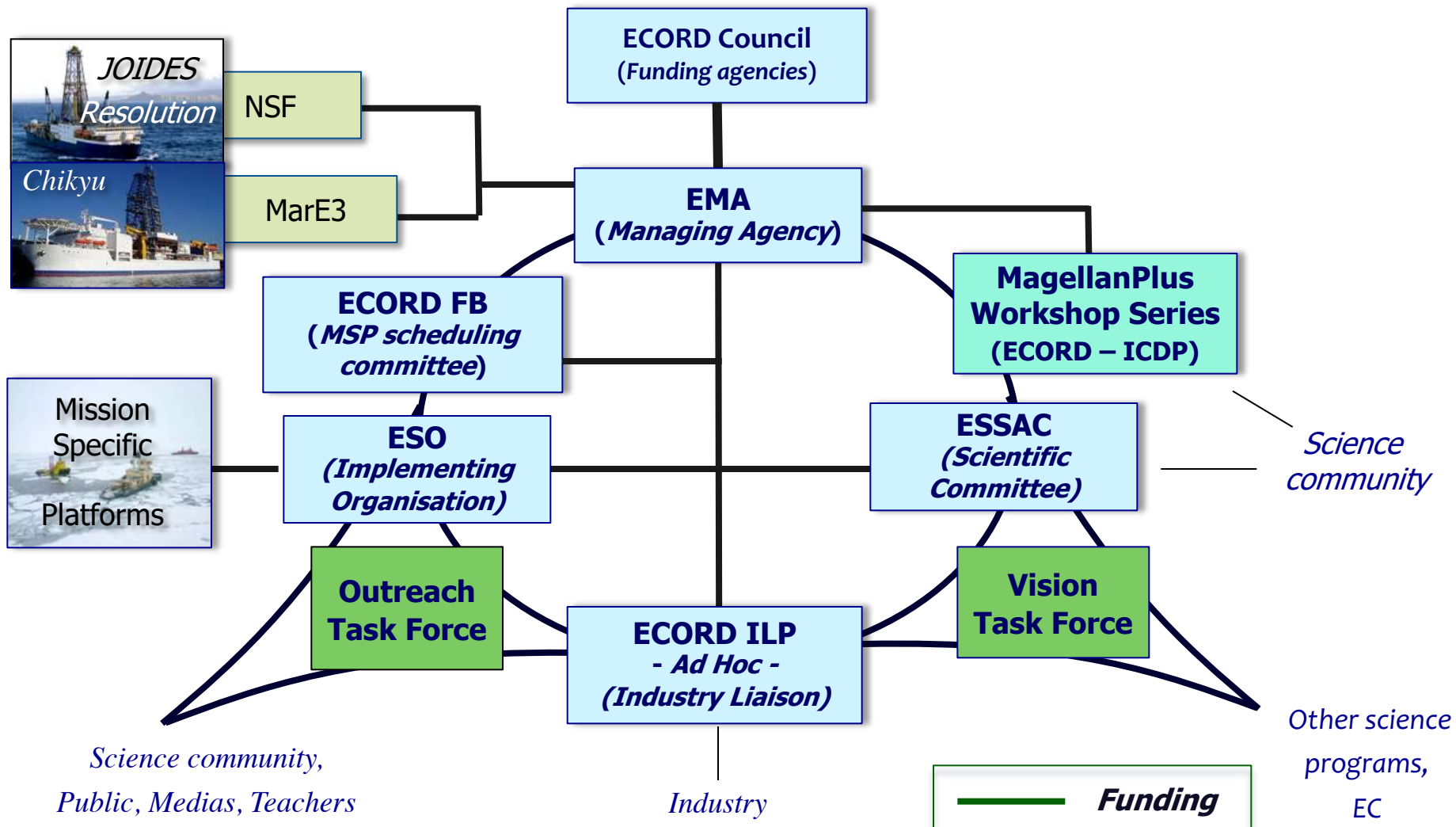
**S-Korea** (*On hold*)

**Brazil** (*On hold*)



Budget  $\pm$  130-140 M\$/yr

23 member countries





Credit: Simone Sauer / ECORD / IODP

ECORD  
Science Operator

# Capabilities of mission-specific platforms (MSPs) & coring technologies

THANKS TO DAVID MCINRE



British  
Geological  
Survey

dbm@bgs.ac.uk



# Why are MSPs needed?



- To work in lithologies where alternative coring methods might yield better recovery

- To implement science that cannot be implemented by any other IODP operator or national facilities





X313  
New Jersey  
Shelf



1



2

X347 Baltic Sea

X302  
Central Arctic



2



3

X364 Gulf of Mexico  
(Chicxulub)



4

X357  
Central North Atlantic



5

X381  
Gulf of Corinth



6

X386 Japan Trench (planning)



7

X310 Tahiti

# IODP Mission Specific Platforms 2004-2021



8

X325  
Great Barrier Reef



X313  
New Jersey  
Shelf



1



2

X347 Baltic Sea

X302  
Central Arctic



2



3

X364 Gulf of Mexico  
(Chicxulub)



4

X357  
Central North Atlantic



5

X381  
Gulf of Corinth



6

X386 Japan Trench (planning)



7

X310 Tahiti

**Dynamically positioned  
geotechnical vessels,  
multipurpose vessels, and  
converted supply vessels**



8

X325  
Great Barrier Reef



X313  
New Jersey  
Shelf



1



2

X347 Baltic Sea

X302  
Central Arctic



2



3

X364 Gulf of Mexico  
(Chicxulub)



4

X357  
Central North Atlantic



5

X381  
Gulf of Corinth



6

X386 Japan Trench (planning)



7

X310 Tahiti

Lift boats  
(and other small-scale  
elevating platforms)



8

X325  
Great Barrier Reef

X313  
New Jersey  
Shelf



1



2

X347 Baltic Sea

X302  
Central Arctic



2



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X364 Gulf of Mexico  
(Chicxulub)



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X357  
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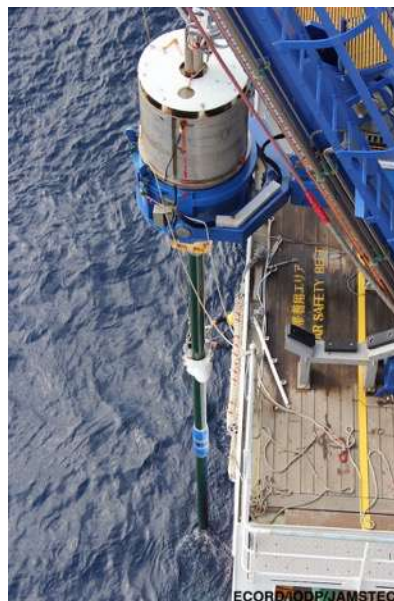
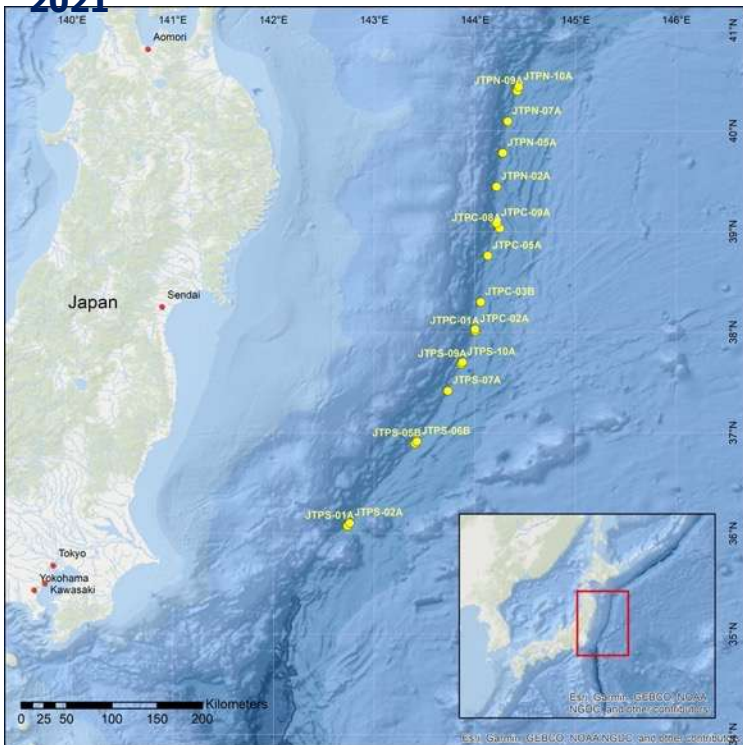
X325  
Great Barrier Reef

### Research vessels





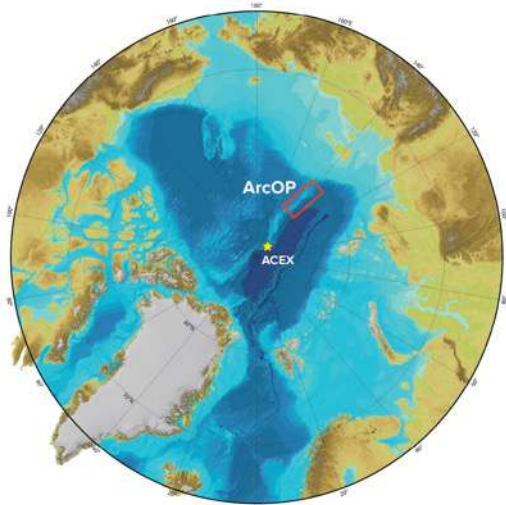
### IODP Expedition 386: Japan Trench Paleoseismology, April – June 2021



**Drillships:** Offshore R/V Kaimei; Onshore Science Party D/V Chikyu

the deepest water site ever drilled and cored at the water depth of 8023 m

Exp. 377 Arctic Ocean Paleoceanography (ArcOP)  
Aug-Sept 2022



### Tracking Arctic climate change from a Greenhouse to an Icehouse world

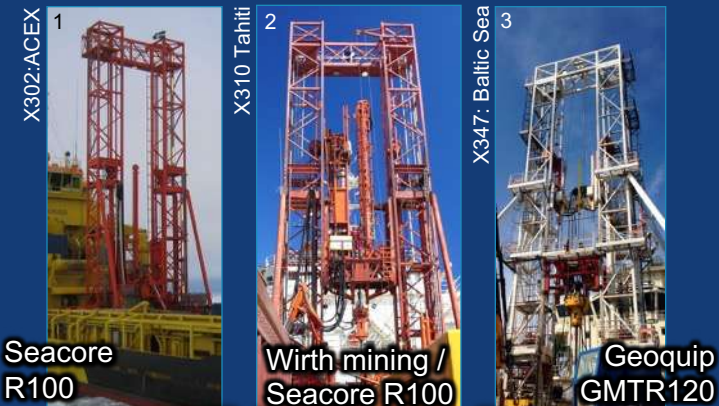
**GOAL:**  
Recovery of a continuous stratigraphic  
record of the long-term Cenozoic  
climate history of the central Arctic  
Ocean.

**Drillship: *Dina Polaris***





# Summary of MSP coring methods 2004-2021



Offshore wireline



Mining-style wireline



Sea floor drills



Rumohr cores (gravity cores)



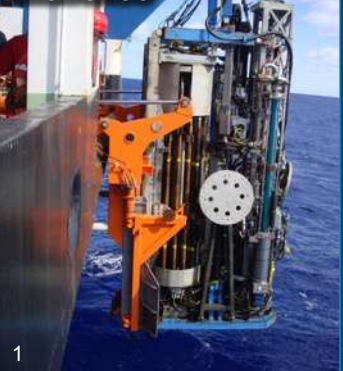
Giant piston coring





# Seafloor drill technology

MARUM MeBo70 & MeBo200



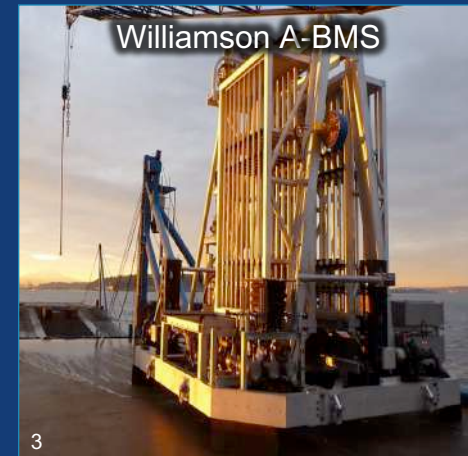
BGS RD2



Benthic Geotech PROD 1, 2, 3 & 4



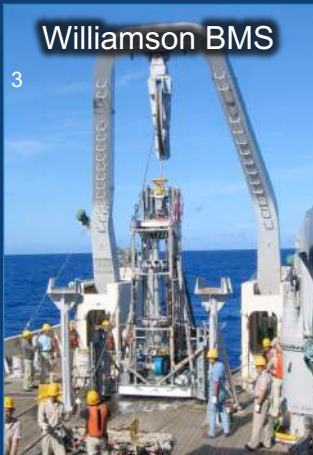
Williamson A-BMS



Cellula CRD100



Williamson BMS



Fugro SFD & SFDII



Helix RovDrill 2



Royal IHC SWORD



## Possible future MSP platforms

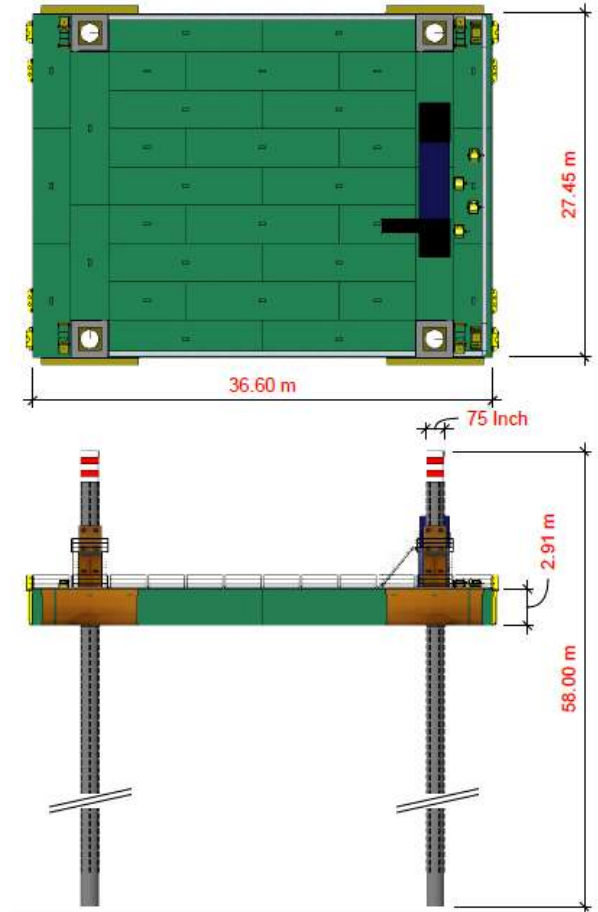


**COMBIFLOAT C-9**

SELF ELEVATING PLATFORM



- Can elevate in up to 56m water depth
- Size can be altered
- Can be transported and mobilised almost anywhere







Credit: Australian Antarctic Division

## RSV Nuyina



**Australian Government**

**Department of the Environment and Energy**

Australian Antarctic Division

## Possible future MSP platforms for polar regions

### RRS Sir David Attenborough



Natural  
Environment  
Research Council



Credit: UKRI / Natural Environment Research Council





## Take-home messages

- New Science Framework until 2050, with periodic assessments
- New structure of the program: Flagship Initiatives
- One or multiple Programs?
- Land-Sea: Amphibious projects
- For our community: FOCUS ON MISSION SPECIFIC PLATFORM
- New proposals needed – Magellan Workshops



## Why robotic drilling ?

### Disadvantage

- Less control on drill process

### Advantage

- Safety
- Access to extreme environments (steep walls, extraterrestrial environments, **sea floor** )

Picture: Roboclimber  
(Molfino, 2005)

## Advantages of sea bed drill rigs

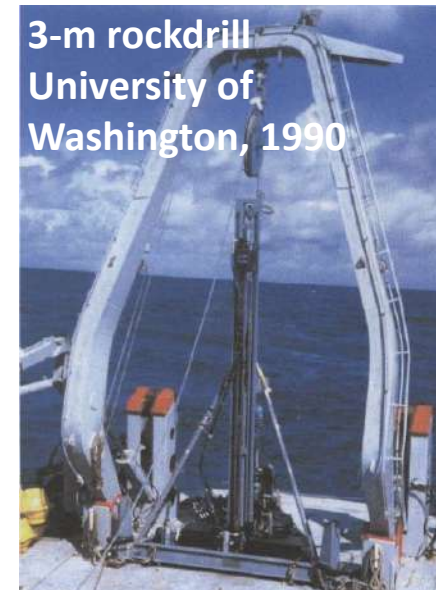
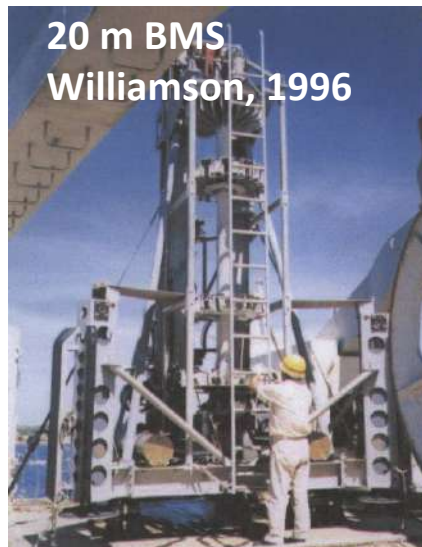
- Stable platform – optimal drill bit control
- No need for drill pipe through the water column
- Operation from multipurpose research vessels



Seabed Rig AS



## Existing seabed drill rigs



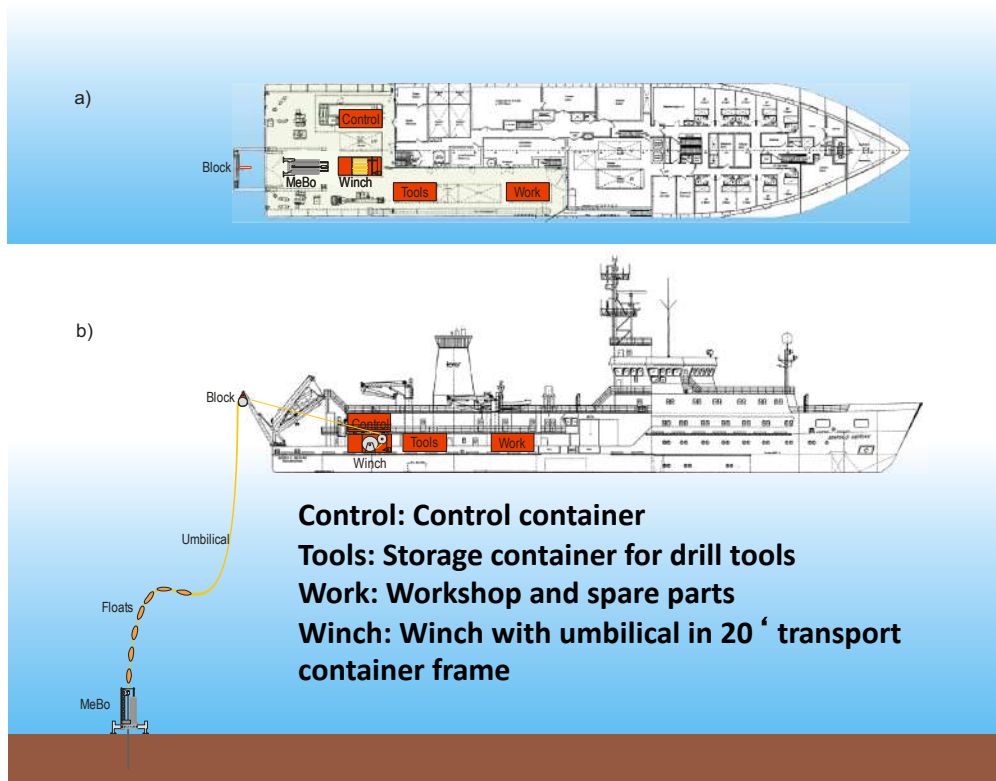


## MeBo specifications

- Drilling depth 70 m
- Coring of soft sediments and hard rocks
- Core diameter 55 – 84 mm
- Deployment depth 0 – 2000 m
- MeBo weight about 10 tonnes
- Total system weight about 75 tonnes
- Transport within six 20 ‘ containers

## Concept of MeBo

- Umbilical is used to lower the drill rig to the sea floor
- Umbilical is used for energy supply and remote control from the vessel

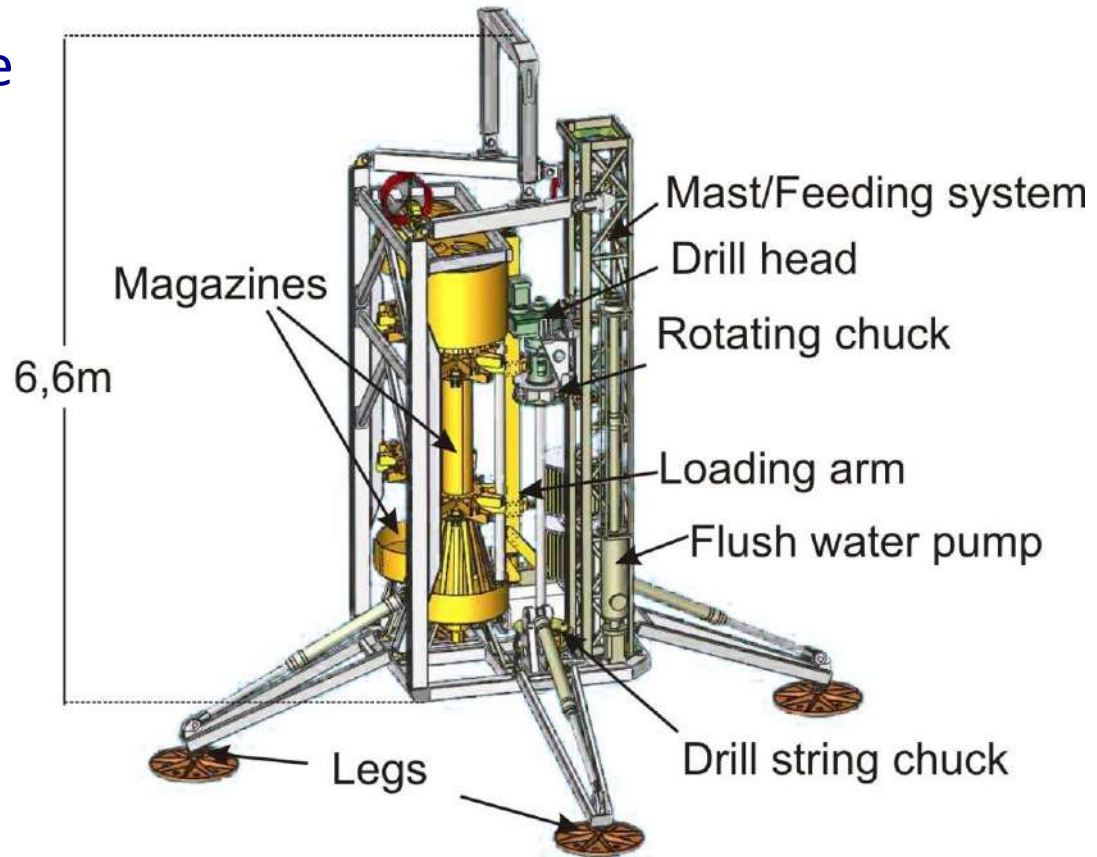


- Transport of the System within 20' shipping containers, that are mounted on the working deck of the research vessel

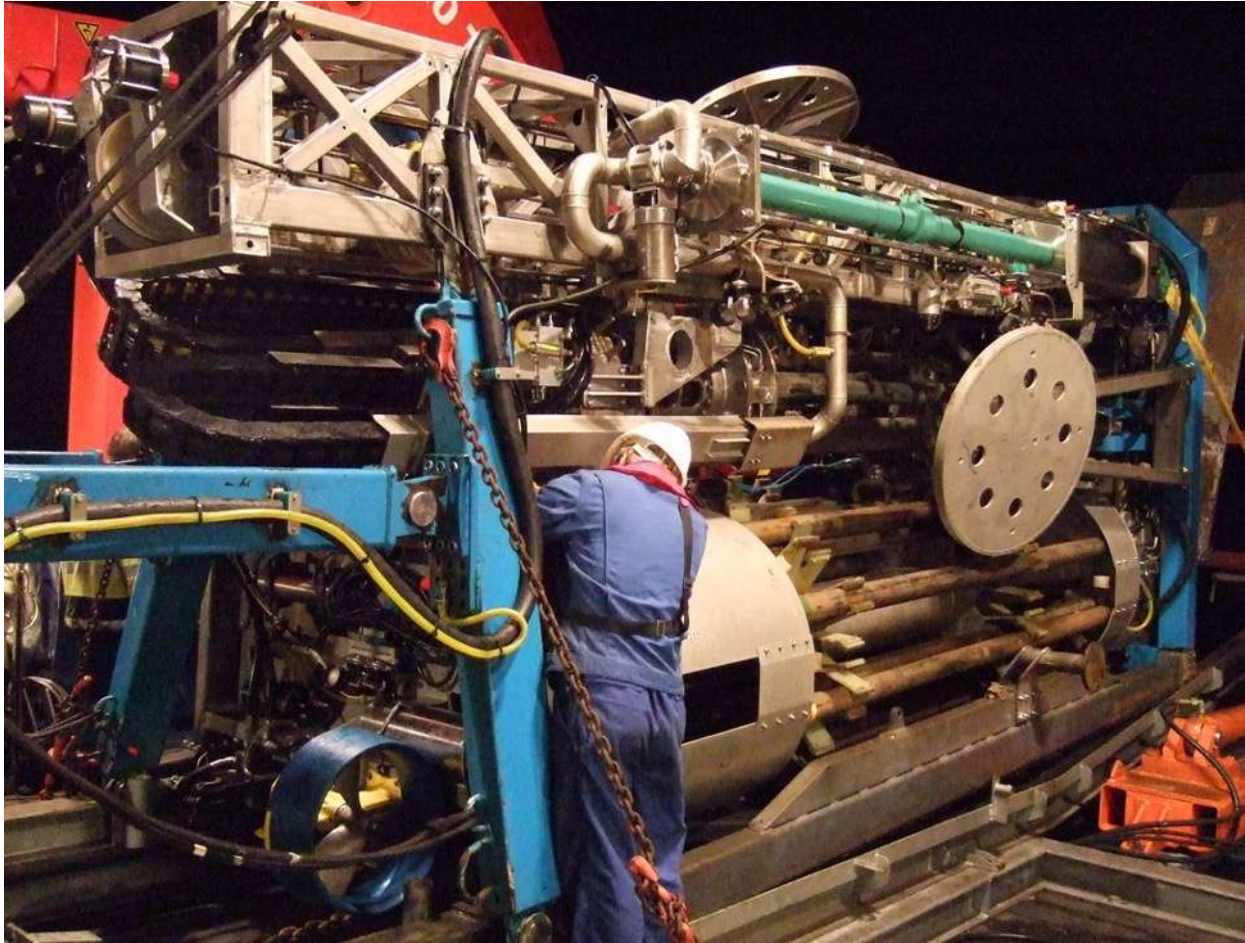


## Concept

- Mast, drill head and flush water pump form the central drilling unit
- Drill rig has access to drilling tools stored within two magazines
- The drill string is built up and down using a loading arm and two chucks
- Stability on the sea floor is increased by movable legs



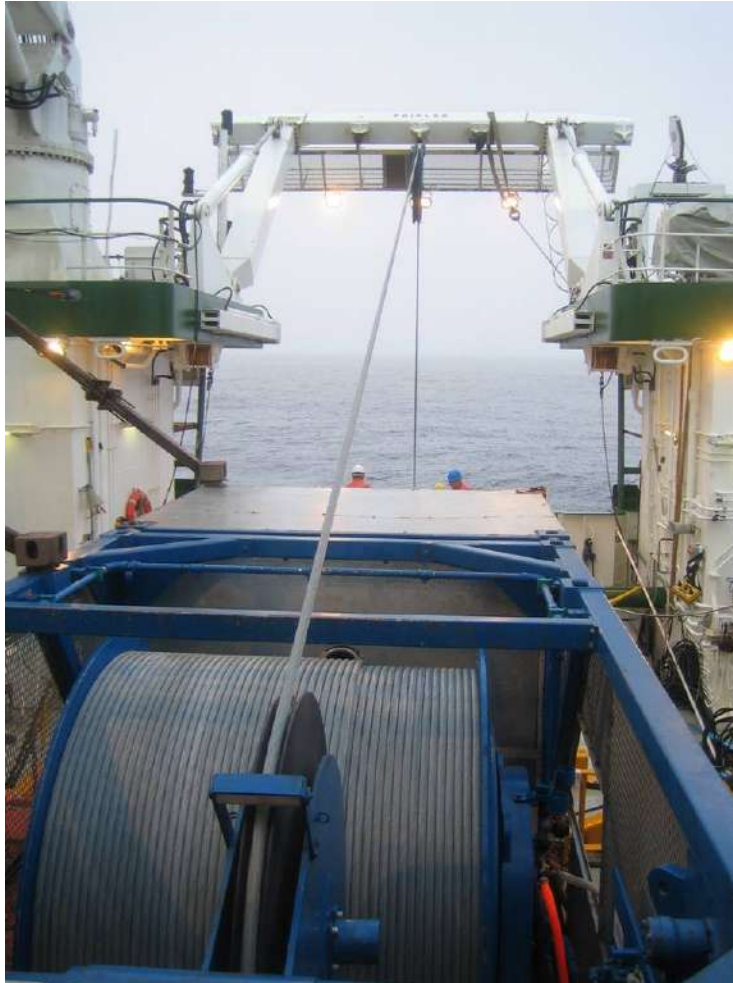
## System



### Drill rig

For maintenance work between deployments the MeBo lies horizontally on deck. The movable legs are armed in. The rig weighs about 10 tonnes.

## System



### Winch

The winch stores 2500 m of the umbilical. The pull force of the winch in the upper layer is 12 tonnes.



## System



### Control Unit

The drill rig is remotely controlled from the control container. All actions are surveyed by video cameras and sensors.

# System



## Workshop

A mechanical workshop and spareparts are transported within a workshop container for maintenance and repair on sea

# System



## Drill tools

2.35m rods are used to build up the drill string. 30 core barrels and 29 rods are required for core drilling down to 70 m below the sea floor.



**MeBo  
2004/2005  
(HBFG)**



**Cooperations:**

**Prakla Bohrtechnik  
Schilling Robotics  
NSW, STA ...**



**Wire-line  
2007/2008  
(HBFG)**



**Prakla  
Seyferle**

**Pressure Core Barrel  
2008/2010  
(BMBF, SUGAR)**



**Prakla Bohrtechnik  
TU Clausthal**

**Borehole Logging  
(2010)**

